

05-26-04

IF 16348



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Dated: May 24, 2004 Signature: Linda Blake  
(Linda Blake)

Docket No.: GSIM-P01-006  
(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Heath et al.

Confirmation No.: 8977

Application No.: 09/241636

Art Unit: 1634

Filed: February 2, 1999

Examiner: Jeanine Anne Goldbert

For: PROCESSES FOR ISOLATING, AMPLIFYING  
AND CHARACTERIZING DNA

May 24, 2004

### COMMUNICATION IN RESPONSE TO MARCH 22, 2004 NOTICE OF NON- COMPLIANT AMENDMENT (37 CFR 1.121)

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Communication is being filed in reply to a Notice of Non-compliant Amendment (the "Notice") mailed March 22, 2004, in connection with the above application. The Notice provides a one-month period for response. Therefore, a response was due on April 22, 2004. Applicants are concurrently petitioning for a one-month extension of time, extending the period for reply to May 22, 2004. However, since May 22, 2004 was a Saturday, pursuant to 37 CFR §1.7, a response may be filed on the next succeeding day which is not a Saturday, Sunday or federal holiday, i.e. Monday, May 24, 2004. Accordingly, this Communication is being timely filed within the one-month extended deadline.

The Notice states that a separate sheet listing all the claims is not present in the Amendment filed on March 9, 2004. Accordingly, Applicants are providing a complete listing of the claims starting on page 2, which will replace all prior listings.